**2018 Long-Term Stewardship Conference** 

# Defense-Related Uranium Mine Reconciliation Process

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#### Reconciliation Introduction

- A "sleuthing" process whereby the location and production data for each mine identified for the Defense-Related Uranium Mine (DRUM) program is evaluated and corrected as necessary
- A DRUM is a mine that sold ore to the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) between 1948 and 1970
- DRUM sites range from small prospects to large mines, some of which continued operation after the DRUM period

### Reconciliation Background

- AEC sources of information on DRUM locations and production
  - Summary of Uranium Production, 1948–1967
    - Lists 4,225 DRUM sites
      - o In 2013, LM identification (ID) numbers assigned
    - Mine locations derived from listings in state and federal databases
  - Uranium Ore Production Report, 1947–1970
    - Lists production by state and county for each property
  - "The Shoe Box Report"
    - o Tabulation of uranium ore produced under the AEC program from 1948 to 1970
    - Lists production of property by year and operator

### Early Reconciliation Work

- DRUM database established in late 2014
- Early reconciliation work:
  - Grants Mineral Belt, New Mexico (2015)
  - Southeast Utah districts and pilot mines (2016)
- Expanded reconciliation team focused on specific areas and districts addressed in Field Operation Plans (FOPs) in 2017
  - White, Fry, and Red Canyons, Utah
  - Thompson District, Utah
  - State of New Mexico
  - U.S. Bureau of Land Management Uncompangre Field Office Long Park, Club Mesa, Eagle Basin, Bitter Creek, Colorado

#### Present and Planned Reconciliation Work

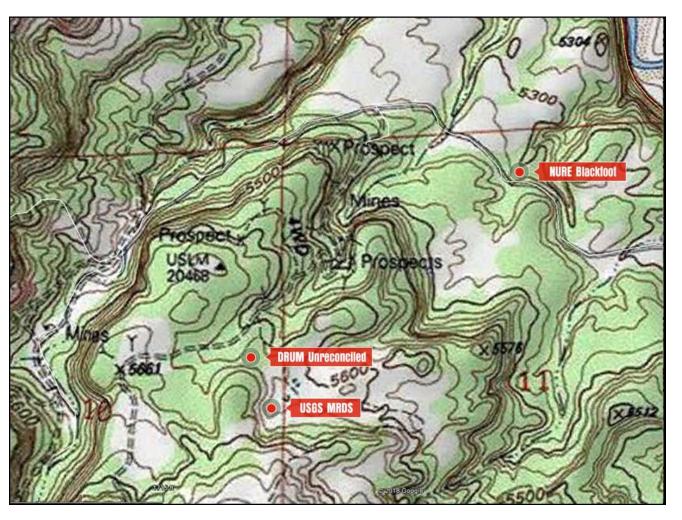
- Approximately 1,500 DRUM sites have been reconciled to date
- Reconciliation team focused on the following areas and districts for 2018 field work:
  - State of Colorado, outside the Uravan Mineral Belt
  - State of Wyoming
  - San Rafael mining district, Utah
  - Manti-La Sal National Forest, Utah
- Planned areas for future field work:
  - Gateway mining district, Colorado
  - Moab mining district, Utah
  - Henry Mountains mining district, Utah
  - Remaining mines in Uravan Mineral Belt, Colorado and Utah

#### **Reconciliation Process**

- Reconciliation team and DOE define a project based on a priority area or mining district
- Relevant mine names and LM IDs are identified from the DRUM database in the project area
- Area- and mine-specific research is conducted to gather pertinent maps, reports, and historic documents
  - AEC Allocation and Bonus case maps and files from the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA)
  - Uranium mine and occurrence data from the National Uranium Resource Evaluation (NURE) Reports
  - Defense Minerals Exploration Administration (DMEA)
  - Other references used include data from AEC records, U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), and State Geological Surveys, and private/mining company map collections

### Why Is Reconciliation Needed?

• Locations vary in accuracy from existing databases



### Example of AEC Production Records

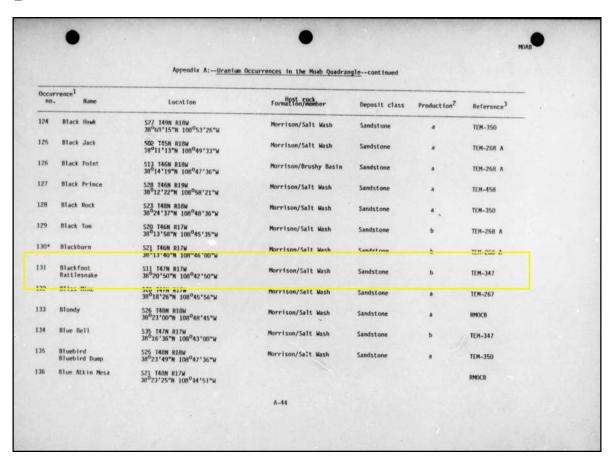
• Summary of Uranium Ore Production Records 1948–1967

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	Y CLUB MESA				*****			
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059690 0 <b>79430</b>	8IG SHOT BLACKFOOT	5 5	43 43	C.42999999E	.04	0.35700000E 02 D.14358199E 05	0.245	
118800 •21590		5 <u>5</u>	43 43	0.93774992E	.03	0.41169997E 05		ALL SALES - B. S.
423500 550641	MARGIE GROUP	5	43	0.27335999E 0.12663000E		0.10002000E Q5		

DISTRICT - URAVAN					
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	5 5		C-10170000E-03	0.1927398E 05	0.300
1-26432BUTTERFLY	5	43			
126432BUTTERFLY 190458 COLUMBUS	<u>5</u> 5	43	C-10170000E-03	0-23680000E 03	0.116
126432 BUTTERFLY 190458 COLUMBUS 223250 CUE BALL	5 5 5	43 43	0.10170000E-03 0.10500000E-02	0.23680000E 03 0.37799999E 02	0.116 0.102 0.341
126432 BUTTERFLY 190458 COLUMBUS 223250 CUE BALL	5 5 5	43 43 43	C-10170000E 03 C-18500000E 02 C-60299999E 02	0.37799999E 02 0.41100000E 03	0-116

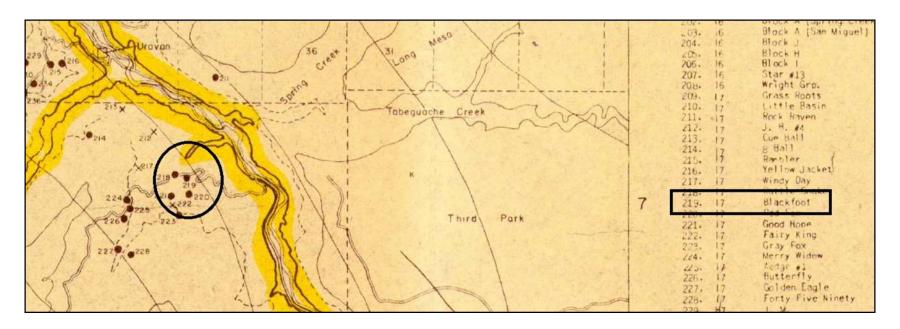
# Examples of Regional Maps and Occurrence Reports (continued)

• NURE reports



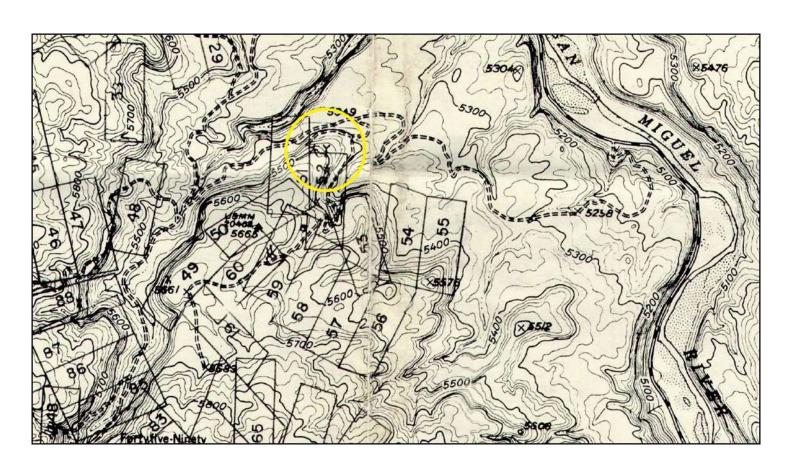
# Examples of Regional Maps and Occurrence Reports (continued)

• Uranium-vanadium deposits of the Uravan Mineral Belt, 1957



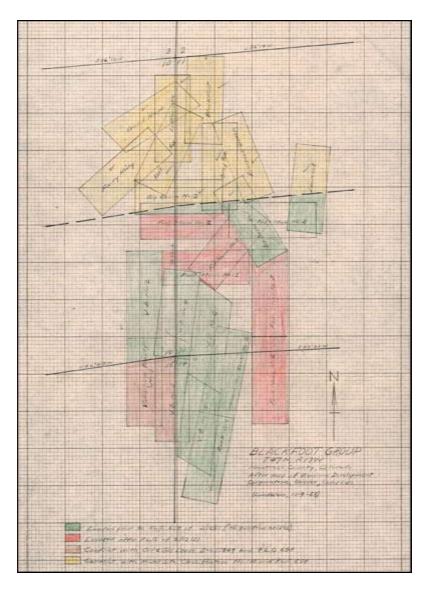
# Examples of Regional Maps and Occurrence Reports (continued)

• AEC 7.5 Minute Quadrangle Claim Maps – Uravan (TEM-347)



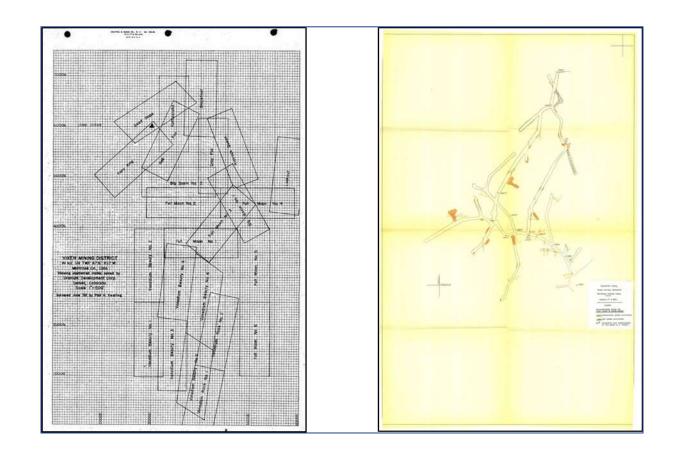
#### AEC Records in the National Archives at Denver

- DRUM-era maps and correspondence between mining companies and the AEC
- Two record series
  - Allocation case files
  - Certification bonus case files
- We collected approximately 3,700 DRUM-specific maps from the National Archives



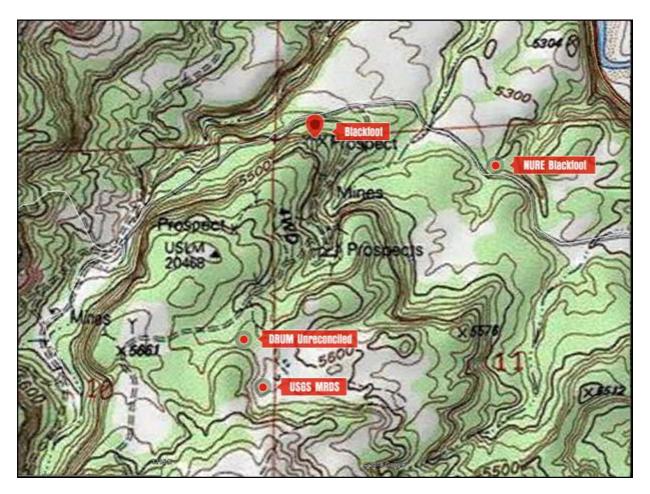
### Defense Minerals Exploration Administration

- Federal Government Mineral Exploration Assistance Programs
  - USGS Data Series 1004, 1950–1974



#### Why Is Reconciliation Needed?

 Essential first step in providing accurate location data to DRUM field teams for verification and validation work



## DRUM Field Team Inventory of the Blackfoot Mine



## Questions?